Washington Cont Host

INDEPENDENT BAKERS ASSOCIATION

P.O. Box 3731 • Washington, D.C. 20007 • (202) 333-8190

April 17, 1989

The Honorable Bob Dole U.S. Senate Attention: Betty Meyer SH 141 Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Bob:

angenark)

On behalf of the <u>Independent Bakers Association</u>, I would like to extend an invitation to speak at our annual June convention luncheon on <u>Wednesday June 14</u>, 1989. We will be meeting at the Washington Court Hotel, formerly the Sheraton Grand. We have invited bakers and leaders in the food industry. Many of your strongest supporters will be attending. Lunch will begin at 12:30 and any time after 1:15 would be an ideal time for you to speak. As always we would be happy to pay an honorarium or make a donation to a charity of your choice. We all hope you will be able to attend. Best personal regards.

Sincerely,

Robert N. Pyle, President Independent Bakers Association

4-20-89 Interin Etter

\$ R. vas hon .

INDEPENDENT BAKERS ASSOCIATION

JUNE 13, 1989

FARM BILL

THE CONVENTIONAL WISDOM REGARDING THE 1985 0 FARM BILL WAS THAT IT WAS ONE OF THE BETTER BILLS FOR AGRICULTURE THAT WE'VE HAD IN SOME TIME. IT HAS HELPED MAINTAIN FARMERS' INCOMES DURING A DIFFICULT AND STRESSFUL TIME AND IT HAS HELPED US BE COMPETITIVE IN EXPORT MARKETS WHILE REDUCING CARRYOVER LEVELS OF BASIC COMMODITIES, ESPECIALLY WHEAT AND CORN. COSTS ARE NOW DOWN TO ABOUT \$11.6 **BILLION FOR FY 1990.**

- 0 I HAD ENCOURAGED THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE TO ACT QUICKLY ON THE 1990 BILL, EVEN AS EARLY AS THIS YEAR.
- SENATOR LEAHY, CHAIRMAN OF THE SENATE AG
 COMMITTEE, HAS SUGGESTED THE COMMITTEE WILL
 MARKUP THE NON-COMMODITY TITLES THIS YEAR
 AND MARKUP COMMODITY TITLES EARLY NEXT YEAR,
 WITH THE GOAL OF LETTING WINTER WHEAT
 FARMERS KNOW BY LATE SPRING OR EARLY SUMMER
 WHAT THE PROGRAM WILL BE.

3

CONGRESSMAN DE LA GARZA HAS SUGGESTED MULTI-YEAR AG LEGISLATION AND HE CONCURS WITH THE GOAL OF GETTING IT ON THE PRESIDENT'S DESK BY MID-SUMMER OF 1990.

DIRECTION OF FARM BILL

MOST OF US WOULD LIKE TO CONTINUE THE
 DIRECTION OF THE 1985 FARM BILL TOWARDS
 GREATER MARKET ORIENTATION, PROTECTING FARM
 INCOME AND EXPORT COMPETITIVENESS.

0 UNDOUBTEDLY, BUDGET CONSTRAINTS WILL BE A MAJOR CONSIDERATION OF WHAT CONGRESS CAN DO IN FARM POLICY.

EXPORTS

0 REGARDING EXPORTS, I'M AWARE THAT DOMESTIC USERS OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS ARE WATCHING MARKET DEVELOPMENTS, ESPECIALLY IN WINTER WHEAT WHERE WE HAD A DROUGHT THIS SPRING IN SEVERAL MIDWESTERN STATES.

IN RESPONSE, USDA HAS GONE SLOWER ON THE
 EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM AND HAS CALLED
 FOR A REDUCTION IN THE SET-ASIDE FROM 10
 PERCENT DOWN TO 5 PERCENT. UNDER NORMAL
 CONDITIONS, THIS WILL HELP WHEAT PRODUCTION
 REBOUND TO OVER TWO AND ONE-HALF BILLION
 BUSHELS NEXT YEAR AND SHOULD BEGIN TO
 REBUILD OUR CARRYOVER STOCKS.

EXPORT ENHANCEMENT PROGRAM

0 THE ADMINISTRATION'S REVIEW OF THE EEP

PROGRAM SHOULD BE FINISHED SHORTLY. THERE WILL BE CONTINUED PRESSURE FROM FARM-STATE LAWMAKERS TO CONTINUE THE PROGRAM UNTIL THE EUROPEANS AGREE TO REDUCE UNFAIR TRADE PRACTICES.

THERE HAS BEEN SOME DISCUSSION THAT THE
 ADMINISTRATION MAY LOOK AT MORE VALUE-ADDED
 SALES AS A WAY TO KEEP THE PRESSURE ON SINCE
 VALUE-ADDED SALES WOULD MEAN LOST "JOBS" TO
 THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITY AND WOULD BE A SORT
 OF "SHOT ACROSS THE BOW."

CHINA

- CHINA HAS BEEN BUYING SOFT RED WHEAT LATELY
 WITHOUT AN EEP SUBSIDY SO THAT MAY INDICATE
 WE ARE CLOSE TO BEING FULLY COMPETITIVE ONCE
 AGAIN.
- ALTHOUGH CHINA HAS BEEN UNDERGOING A DEEP
 INTERNAL CONFLICT, FROM A LONG-TERM
 PERSPECTIVE, IT HAS BEEN A GOOD MARKET FOR
 AMERICAN FARMERS AND SHOULD BE FOR YEARS TO
 COME.

PLANTING FLEXIBILITY

- A LIKELY EMPHASIS FOR THE NEXT FARM BILL WILL BE
 THE NEED FOR GREATER FLEXIBILITY IN FARM
 PROGRAMS.
 MANY FARMERS FEEL THE CURRENT POLICY OF
 - CROP-SPECIFIC BASES NOW LOCKS THEM INTO
 - GROWING A CROP TO QUALIFY FOR GOVERNMENT
 - PAYMENTS. THEY WOULD LIKE MORE LEEWAY TO
 - SWITCH BETWEEN CROPS WHILE PROTECTING

BASES.

GROUNDWATER / ENVIRONMENT

- 0 GROUNDWATER AND ENVIRONMENTAL ISSUES ARE ALSO EXPECTED TO RECEIVE MORE ATTENTION AND PRODUCERS AND AGRIBUSINESS ARE BEGINNING TO GEAR UP FOR THE DEBATE.
- 0 AGRICULTURE WILL NEED TO BE PRO-ACTIVE RATHER THAN RE-ACTIVE.

IMMEDIATE AGENDA

THE SENATE AGRICULTURE COMMITTEE HAS
 STARTED TO MARKUP UP RURAL DEVELOPMENT.
 I HAVE SUGGESTED THE BEST ACTION WE COULD
 TAKE TO SUSTAIN THE LIVLIHOOD OF FARMERS AND
 SMALL BUSINESSMEN IN ABOUT 5 MIDWESTERN
 STATES WOULD BE TO PASS A DROUGHT BILL FOR
 THOSE CROPS PLANTED LAST YEAR AND HARVESTED
 THIS YEAR, NAMELY WINTER WHEAT.

0 THE KANSAS ECONOMY ALONE WILL LOSE OVER \$1.5 BILLION DUE TO THIS YEAR'S DROUGHT.

RECONCILIATION

0 THE COMMITTEE ALSO NEEDS TO ADDRESS HOW TO COME UP WITH ABOUT \$600 MILLION IN SAVINGS TO MEET OUR RECONCILIATION TARGETS. (SO ANY DONATIONS WOULD BE WELCOME) WE ARE STILL WORKING ON IDEAS.

JUNE 12, 1989

TO: SENATOR DOLE

FROM: MARK SCANLAN

SUBJECT: INDEPENDENT BAKERS

BACKGROUND -- IBA is a trade group of about 300 small and mid-sized wholesale bakers.

This will be an informal presentation and there will be about 80 people. They would like you to speak about 15 minutes with Q & A following. You will be introduced by Bill McCurry of Manilder Milling Company from Shawnee Mission, Kansas.

GENERAL ISSUES -- You may want to touch on China, Senate and Congressional calander and agriculture.

AG ISSUES -- The Bakers don't like EEP. They are interested in rebuilding wheat reserves to about 900 million bushels.

They may also be concerned about the EEP review which should be finished within the next couple of weeks if the review suggests using EEP to facilitate more value-added products over bulk commodities. The bakers dislike EEP because it tends to raise their raw ingredient prices. In addition, they are concerned about value-added sales of flour and oil because of the impact of prices.

You may want to indicate the need to be prudent while at the same time applying pressure to the EEC to reform international trade practices.